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TELECON

President Nixon/Secretary Kissinger  
July 17, 1974  
4:30 PM

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(D)

K: Mr. President.

N: Hello, Henry. How are we getting along with our Greek friends?

K: The problem in Cyprus is the Europeans have taken a ~~mixed~~ united position that Makarios ought to be brought back and they want us to bring pressure on the Greeks. My worry is that Makarios now has to lean on the Communists and Eastern bloc. All our evidences is that the opposition is in total control of the Islands. My recommendation is that first, we get someone over there to ~~make~~ make our view clear and secondly, we work for a compromise in which neither Makarios or the other guy take over.... They want us to ~~take~~ take the Greeks but if they get overthrown then that will ~~jeopardize~~ jeopardize our whole position.

N: I know that. I can see that, but not much support from Europe?

K: No, but they know we are dragging our feet, but they don't ~~know~~ know exactly what we want.

N: Who are you going to send?

K: Either Ingersol or Sisco. Ingersoll has the advantage of taking orders well, but Sisco is more knowledgeable.

N: Whatever you decide, it's alright with me.

K: Sisco is necessary here to manage the ~~thing~~ thing on a day to day basis.

N: I see. What can he accomplish. Explain to them what we're trying to do.

K: The danger is this, if everyone runs to Makarios embracing him the legitimate head...and if the Soviets are the only ones to offer to help restore him, we have no basis for resisting it.

N: I see the danger. We have ~~no~~ no support.

K: We can not openly oppose Makarios but we can try to slow it down enough so that perhaps we can crystalize enough support for an internal solution. The Europeans are talking a tough game, but we have to defend their position.

N: We have to defend their game plan.

K: Exactly.

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K: If the ~~E~~ Greeks collapse, then the left wing could take over or a bunch of Greek colonels who could thrown in with the Quadafi group.

K: That's is what I would propose, with your permission, to do.

K: And if it fails, we can join the consensus.

K: My analysis is if Makarios is brought back this way, he will have to kick the Greek officers off the island and then the Communists will be the dominant force and to balance the Turks he will have to rely on the Eastern bloc. So the coup will have shifted the balance to the left.

K:

N: You have to go ahead. Use either man. You're much closer to it.

N: Ingersol is a good ~~xxxxxx~~ calm man, if he knows are position.

K: That's the advantage of Ingersol. ~~So~~ Well, I'll keep you informed.

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